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DRAFT: CALFED Policy Position on Purchasing Water Options Contracts

A principal objective of the CALFED Program is to take actions to improve protection of endangered fisheries in the Bay-Delta system. The CALFED Program supports the use of funds from the California Bay-Delta Environmental Enhancement and Water Security Act in the current year for acquisition of water, or options for purchasing water, in support of fisheries protection in the Delta. Options and other water acquisitions can be used for environmental water account actions, for exchange with water rights holders to support environmental improvements, or for other upstream ecosystem restoration activities.

The Program acknowledges that accounting and reimbursement arrangements for the purchases will need to be developed. However, such arrangements can be developed and agreed on after any available water options have been purchased.